

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05

SS-15 CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 AGR-05 STR-04 /106 W

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R 100603Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6912

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE BY POUCH

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL PERTH BY POUCH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJ: GOA ANNOUNCES FURTHER RISE IN AUSTRALIAN SEASONALLY
ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR OCTOBER

REF: (A) CANBERRA 6736; (B) CANBERRA 6048

1. GOA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND IMMIGRATION HAS ANNOUNCED
OCTOBER EMPLOYMENT DATA SHOWING A FURTHER INCREASE OVER
12,000 TO 315,780, OR 5.3 PERCENT AS AGAINST 5.1 PCT. FOR
SEPTEMBER. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNFILLED VACANCIES FELL OVER
12 PCT. TO 23,585.

2. UNADJUSTED DATA SHOW RISE IN REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT OF
1,105 TO 247,199, OR 4.2 PCT. OF WORKFORCE.

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3. AT THE END OF OCTOBER 7,400 PERSONS REGISTERED WITH COMMON-WEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (CES) WHO HAD BEEN EMPLOYED UNDER REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) SCHEME, A RISE OF 1,300 SINCE SEPTEMBER. ON OTHER HAND, THERE WAS OVERALL DECREASE OF THOSE ON RED ROLES OF 7,000 TO 13,600. THIS INDICATES THAT SOME 5,700 FORMER RED EMPLOYEES FOUND EMPLOYMENT ELSEWHERE.

4. COMMENT: INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT NOT OUT OF LINE WITH RECENT FORECAST BY MINISTER OF LABOR MCCLELLAND REPORTED IN PARA 2, REF (B). PREDICTABLY, HOWEVER, MCCLELLAND HAS ATTRIBUTED MOST RECENT RISE TO CURRENT BLOCKING OF BUDGET BY OPPOSITION AND HAS REPORTEDLY CLAIMED THAT IF BUDGET NOT UNBLOCKED PROMPTLY, UNEMPLOYMENT COULD RISE TO 600,000 RATHER THAN 400,000 LEVEL HE HAD ESTIMATED FOR EARLY 1976. EQUALLY PREDICTABLY, DEPUTY OPPOSITION LEADER LYNCH ATTRIBUTED RISE TO "FAILURE OF THIS YEAR'S BUDGET AS AN INSTRUMENT OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY," AND LABELLED MCCLELLAND'S STATEMENT A "SHALLOW CONFIDENCE TRICK." EMBASSY LARGELY DISCOUNTS EFFECTS BUDGET BLOCKING IN OCTOBER FIGURES, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY HAVE BEEN MARGINAL EFFECT DUE TO PREMATURE CLOSING OF SOME RED PROGRAMS.

PERCIVAL

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